Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE OF	VLY	 - MILITER INTERNAL
RECEIVED		
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SEE	INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T TYPE ALL ENTRIES				3
1 NAME					
HISTORIC		es e			
AND/OR COMMON	ne Norris Miller Ho	use			
	e Stovewood House				
2 LOCATION	N			ű.	
STREET & NUMBER	118 North Mill. S	<i>t</i> .	NOT F	OR PUBLICATION	
city, town Decorah		MEINITY OF	CONG	RESSIONAL DISTR	ICT
STATE I OWA		CODE	Winnesh	niek	CODE
3 CLASSIFIC	CATION				
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS		PRESI	ENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	_OCCUPIED	_	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
XBUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	XUNOCCUPIED	_	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	_WORK IN PROGRESS	_	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	_	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	_YES: RESTRICTED	- t	GOVERNMENT	_SCIENTIFIC
	XBEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED		INDUSTRIAL MILITARY	TRANSPORTATIONOTHER:
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CITY, TOWN				STATE	
Decor		VICINITY OF		Iowa	
COURTHOUSE.	N OF LEGAL DESCR		County C	ourthouse	
CITY, TOWN Dec	orah			STATE I OW a	
DEDDECEN	NTATION IN EXIST	ING SLIPVEYS	3		
TITLE	TATION IN EAST	ING BOX VET			
DATE		FEDERAL	_STATEC	OUNTY _LOCAL	ė.
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS					
CITY, TOWN				STATE	



#### CONDITION

00.....

\_EXCELLENT XGOOD

\_\_DETERIORATED

\_FAIR

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_RUINS

### CHECK ONE

\_UNALTERED

#### CHECK ONE

\_ORIGINAL SITE

\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Miller Stovewood House is a simple one and one-half story dwelling with a vernacular Classical cornice and exterior window and door trim. The original portion of the house measures 22 x 26 feet and has a gable roof. The gabled end of the house presents a symetrical appearence with a door flanked by two windows on the ground floor and a window above the door for the second floor. There are also two windows on either side of the house. The house has a full basement with walls of native limestone. The structure is of oak split in the manner of stovewood laid up with a mortar composed of ash and lime. The exterior walls are furred and covered with clapboards. They range from 16 to 18 inches in thickness.

The interior of the house is simple. There are four rooms on the first floor with simple cut wood floors and six over six double hung sash windows for light. A steep narrow stair leads to the second floor which has two rooms. The interior walls are of a traditional frame construction. The house was originally heated by wood stoves vented to a central chimney. The chimney is still extant below the roof line.

There are two additions to the house: both of frame construction. One to the rear of the house and the other to the rear portion of the south side.

bring restored - will be open to put

SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1856	BUILDER/ARCI	HITECT Norris Mille	r
		_INVENTION	_robines dovernment	_OTHER (SPECIFI)
1900-1899	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATIONOTHER (SPECIFY)
1700-1799 _X1800-1899	ARTCOMMERCE	ENGINEERINGEXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	MUSIC PHILOSOPHY	THEATER
_1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1500-1599	_AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
_1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE
PREHISTORIC	_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	HECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Miller Stovewood House is one of three known dwellings of this type in the United States. At one point ther were two other known houses of similar construction in Decoran, one was torn down twenty years ago, the other little over a year ago. The other two existing dwellings are located in Wisconsin.

Norris Miller, a carpenter, came to Decorah from Ohio in 1855 and purchased a townlot. A year later he built his house of stovewood. Miller's choice of oak stovewood as a building material is understandable. One hundred and twenty years ago large forests of oak surrounded Decorah, and oak stovewood was probably much more readily available and certianly less expensive than sawed boards. The existence of at least two other houses of similar construction built roughly at the same time, perhaps by Norris Miller, tends to confirm this.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES	
United States Census, manuscript schedules f	or 1860 and 1870.
Kniffen, Fred and Henry H. Glassie, "Wood Co United States: A Time-Place Perspectiv 56:1 (January, 1966).	nstruction in the Easter e," <u>Geographical</u> Review
Title abstract (Security Bank Decorah) for B	lock 17, lot 3, West Dec
Telephone interview with Henry Classic, Valo IOGEOGRAPHICAL DATA	- vulv., www.navon, conn
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